

Pre Amended
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Dkt. 01088

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Group Art Unit: 1623

CAROLE LE BERRE et al

Examiner: R. Deemie

Serial No.: 09/807,434

Filed: April 23, 2001

For: METHOD FOR PREPARING ACETIC ACID AND/OR METHYL
ACETATE IN THE PRESENCE OF IRIIDIUM AND PLATINUM

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SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter into the application the amendments set
forth below and in the attached Appendix:

1. (Twice Amended) A process for the preparation of acetic acid, methyl acetate or both acetic acid and methyl acetate, comprising a reaction selected from the group consisting of carbonylation of methanol, isomerization of methyl formate or both carbonylation of methanol and isomerization of methyl formate, said reaction being carried out in a liquid phase reaction medium in the presence of water, a solvent, a homogeneous catalyst system comprising iridium and a halogen-

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